Judicial probe in Gaisal Rail Mishap

527. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item under the caption, Judicial Probe into Gaisal rail mishap-5 Rly Officers suspended, which appeared in 'Hindustan Times' dated the 6th August, 1999;

(b) whether the suspended officials and the General Manager who was asked to proceed on leave as per the report, have been taken back;

(c) if so, the reason therefor; and

(d) if not, the specific charges and status of enquiry into the charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The concerned officers have not been indicated in any manner in the interim Inquiry Report of the statutory inquiry conducted by the Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety, Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(d) Does not arise.

Safety net in Pooja Express blast

528. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police have denied any responsibility in the Pooja Express blast;

(b) if so, the details of powers assigned to both the Forces;

(c) whether in the absence of any clear cut powers, the safety net has not been followed by both the Forces; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard and to ensure safety net to commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) According to Entry No. 2 of the State List of the Constitution of India, 'Police' (including Railway and village Police), is a State subject. Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains is, therefore, the statutory responsibility of the State Police. A separate wing of State Police called the Government Railway Police (GRP) deals with all matters relating to law and order on the Railways.